



Key concept

Other uses of the plants

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CONCEPT: Other uses of the plants

1 - BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE CONCEPT

Herbs, flowers, vegetables, and plants in general can be used for different purposes. In a vegetable garden, we usually cultivate in order to produce food, but we can also benefit from different uses of the plants in order to produce natural remediation, infusions, spices, and natural colours to be used in art activities or textile dyeing.

2 - Activities of the LivingStem project that may be related to this concept

This concept is strongly related to **The World of Natural Colours activity** and to **PermaculturArt activity**, which are aimed to extract and use natural colours from plants and vegetables for different purposes.

The concept is also linked to the **Deck of cards** and to its application in the **Kitchen Garden Game**. Each card, in fact, gives to the players specific information about different uses of the card's subject, for the productions of a variety of goods.

3 - Methodology proposal for the implementation of the activity described above

Students can effectively explain the different use of plants concept, showing some application in practical activities. It may be useful to let them introduce the concept with the help of the deck of cards.

Some plants cards can be picked from the deck and the pupils, in front of the camera, may present for each plant the different uses. After that, the students can show a practical application for at least one plant, documenting through the video the production of a natural colour.

4 - Children involvement in the activity

Before starting all the students should be involved in defining the concept of the video and its objectives, writing down:

- the video lineup, highlighting all the steps of the activity they intend to film;
- a simple storyboard where the scenes and the role of the actors are described.

At this point the students should be divided in two main groups: one group will be responsible for the technical implementation of the video; the second group will act in front of the camera, first presenting the concept through the cards and later leading the sample activity for the natural colours production.

5 - Links between this concept and science (STEAM) and permaculture

The concept is strictly related to creativity skill, but also to botanical, engineering and chemistry skills.

Furthermore, it is also necessary for the pupils to demonstrate a broad knowledge of the properties of different herbs and plants and their traditional uses for goods production.



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